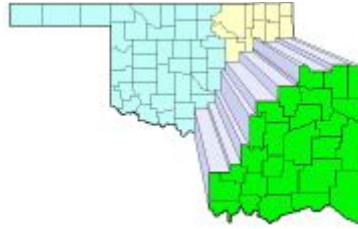




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NEWS RELEASE

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MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA - Sheldon J. Sperling, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Oklahoma, announced a jury verdict of guilty was returned on August 23, 2007, for MARCUS DURELL HOOKS, age 23, and ROBERT CHAVELLE FERRELL, age 25, both of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The federal jury found the defendants guilty of Felon in Possession of a Firearm, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1).

“Agencies involved in the investigation were the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosive, McIntosh County Sheriff’s Office, Hanna Police Department, Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP), and the Muskogee Creek Lighthorse Police Department,” stated U.S. Attorney Sperling.

“Charges arose from a pursuit by the Hanna P. D., OHP, and Muskogee Creek Lighthorse P.D., which occurred on the evening of October 24, 2006, near Hanna, in McIntosh County. Officers recovered a Cobray M-11 Uzi-type semi-automatic pistol and a ROHM .38 revolver from the roadside along the route of the chase. The M-11pistol belonged to FERRELL and the .38 revolver belonged to HOOKS.”

“The jury deliberated for less than 3 hours in reaching the guilty verdicts,” commented U.S. Attorney Sperling.

“The Honorable Ronald A. White, District Judge in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma, presided over the trial. Following the jury’s return of guilty verdicts, Judge White ordered the defendants detained in the custody of the U.S. Marshal Service, pending sentencing. Sentencing will be scheduled after the preparation of presentence reports.”

“Under the applicable statute, HOOKS and FERRELL could receive up to 10 years imprisonment and/or up to \$250,000.00 in fines. A preliminary guideline calculation rendered a prospective sentencing range of 57 to 71 months for HOOKS and 70 to 87 months for FERRELL.”

“Assistant United States Attorney Rob Wallace represented the government at trial.”

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